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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DEMONSTRATE SMALL WIND POWER ON HOG FARM

DENVER, CO January 26, 2005 – The Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) recently installed a recommissioned 65 kW wind turbine at Colorado Pork, LLC, near Lamar in southeast Colorado. Colorado Pork is a concentrated animal feeding operation with 6,300 sows. The wind turbine complements a combined heat and power system (CHP) using biogas produced from hog waste from an anaerobic digester.

Lamar is an excellent location for a wind turbine. The average wind speed is over 13 miles per hour and Colorado's largest wind farm, with 162 MW of wind turbines, is located about 25 miles south of Lamar. The Town of Lamar has installed 6 MW of wind power nearby.

OEMC and Colorado Pork installed a wind anemometer to measure wind energy feasibility for a period of one year. OEMC has an anemometer loan program that rotates eight anemometers, generally on a yearly basis, to different sites for gathering wind data specific to sites that are considering small wind power development. The data which was gathered for the year was compared with data gathered by the town of Lamar's large anemometer which had been located within the sight of the farm's anemometer.

The wind turbine installed at Colorado Pork is a Vestas E15 machine refurbished by Energy Maintenance Service (EMS). The total installed cost, including all electrical connections, is about $85,000 and OEMC estimates a payback of 8 to 10 years. With no credit for peak reduction, the wind turbine will generate about $11,000 worth of electricity per year for Colorado Pork.

OEMC funded this project to provide a demonstration, which could be highlighted in educational workshops throughout the agricultural community. OEMC plans to create a video explaining small wind power and the installation of this turbine for onsite power generation. Also, the extensive educational resources on Colorado Pork's CHP system will be updated to include information on the wind turbine.

"OEMC is actively pursuing the benefits of using wind, in hybrid projects, and is beginning a research project to produce hydrogen from wind," said Rick Grice, executive director of OEMC. "Based on the results of that project, we hope to show farmers how they can produce hydrogen from wind to sell or to power some farm vehicles."

Educational resources and information on the mentioned programs, including OEMC's Anemometer Loan Program is available at: www.state.co.us/oemc.

About Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC):
As the lead state agency on energy efficiency and conservation issues, OEMC serves the people and businesses of Colorado through demonstration and education of viable, real-world solutions to the need to reduce our reliance on foreign energy. OEMC serves as a statewide advocate of energy efficiency through its programs and partnerships that benefit Colorado's economic and natural environment. OEMC receives federal funding, including U.S. Department of Energy, but no Colorado state tax dollars to support its activities. Contact OEMC at www.state.co.us/oemc or call toll-free, 800-632-6662.

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